REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-30 were pending and rejected. Portions of the specification and drawings were objected. In this response, no claim has been canceled or amended. A portion of the specification has been amended. No new matter has been added.

Portions of the specification and drawings were objected. In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the objections have been overcome. Formal drawings will be submitted when the present application is in condition of allowance.

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,832,726 of Torchalski ("Torchalski"). Applicant hereby reserves the right to swear behind Torchalski. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-30 include limitations that are not disclosed by Torchalski. Specifically, for example, independent claim 1 recites as follows:

> 1.   A method, comprising:
>   capturing an original machine-readable code (MRC) <u>at a location of a document</u>;
>   <u>generating a new MRC based on the original MRC</u>, the new MRC representing the same data of the original MRC; and
>   <u>replacing the original MRC with the new MRC, wherein the new MRC is located at substantially the same location as the original MRC</u> with respect to the rest of the contents of the document.

(Emphasis added)

Independent claim 1 includes capturing an original MRC at a location of a document and generating a new MRC based on the captured original MRC, where the new MRC represents the same data of the original MRC, and automatically using the new MRC to replace the original MRC at substantially the same location as the original MRC on the document. It is respectfully submitted that the above limitations are absent from Torchalski.

Application Serial No. 10/629,245   -8-   Atty. Docket No. 074451.P158

Rather, Torchalski is related to a software package that can scan an existing printed label into a memory where a user can generate a label format that can be used to print it out on a label subsequently (see Abstract and Summary, col. 3, lines 21 to 46 of Torchalski). However, Torchalski is not related to replacing an existing machine readable code located at a location of a document with a new machine readable code of the document. Rather, Torchalski is related to scanning an existing label and storing it in a memory, where the scanned label can be printed from the memory subsequently.

In contrast, the present invention as claimed is related to scanning a document, locating and capturing an original MRC within the scanned document, generate a new MRC based on the captured original MRC, and replacing the original MRC with the new MRC at the same location of the document (e.g., same document). As a result, even if the original MRC were faded out in the ordinary usage, when the document containing the original MRC is scanned (e.g., copied), the original MRC is automatically located and captured to generate a new MRC. When the document is printed (e.g., via the copy machine), the new MRC is printed on the same location as the original MRC on the document, replacing the original MRC.

Torchalski and the present invention as claimed are solving significantly different problems and their approaches are significantly different. In order to anticipate a claim, each and every limitation of the claims must be taught by the cited reference. It is respectfully submitted that the limitations set forth above are absent from Torchalski. Therefore, for the reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 is not anticipated by Torchalski.

Application Serial No. 10/629,245   -9-   Atty. Docket No. 074451.P158

Similarly, independent claims 14 and 28-30 include limitations similar to those recited in claim 1. Thus, for the reasons similar to those discussed above, independent claims 14 and 28-30 are not anticipated by Torchalski.

Given that the rest of the claims depend from one of the above independent claims, at least for the reasons similar to those discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that the rest of the claims are not anticipated by Torchalski. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.
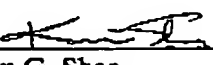
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: June 24, 2005   _____

Kevin G. Shao
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 45,095
Kevin_Shao@bstz.com

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300

Application Serial No. 10/629,245   -10-   Atty. Docket No. 074451.P158